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### **EXPERT ON AMERICAN INDIAN LITERATURE LECTURES AT UM**

#### **MISSOULA --**

David Moore, an assistant professor of English at The University of Montana and a scholar of American Indian literature, will give a free, public lecture on a long-neglected but influential Paiute Indian woman on Thursday, April 26, at UM.

Moore's talk, "Sarah Winnemucca: 19th-Century Indian Activist and Performer," will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the O'Connor Center for the Rocky Mountain West, located in Missoula's Milwaukee Station. The center funded his work on Winnemucca during summer 2000 with a \$2,500 faculty research fellowship.

Winnemucca was a Paiute interpreter, U.S. Army guide and liaison, lecturer, author and advocate for Indian rights during the late 1800s. She struggled to rescue her people from governmental neglect and frontier abuses, Moore said in his fellowship proposal. But while she was very successful in winning over her audiences, she was hardly so in changing governmental policy. Still, Moore said, her writing and stage lectures are remarkable and demonstrate her delicate negotiations between the colonizers of the West and the desperate politics of her people.

"Aspects of the late 20th-century post-colonial theory, feminist theory and performance



theory are just beginning to clarify the dynamics of her late 19th-century strategies,” he said. His work on Winnemucca will be a chapter in his larger project, the two-volume “Native and Nation: American Identity and Native American Sovereignty.”

Moore holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees in English from the University of South Dakota and a doctorate in English from the University of Washington, where he specialized in American and Native American literature and in critical theory. He has many publications, conference papers, grants and awards to his credit and has taught at Salish Kootenai College, Cornell University and the University of South Dakota.

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